

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for coating an optical glass fibre or a coated optical glass fibre, ~~wherein said comprising drawing a glass fibre is drawn from a preform and passed passing it through an organic liquid coating composition which that~~ contains the material for forming ~~said an~~ organic coating, followed by adjusting the amount of liquid coating material ~~composition~~ to be applied to the fibre, and curing of the liquid coating liquid composition to form a solid protective organic layer there on, wherein a gas is conducted over the liquid coating composition; ~~eharaeterized in that and~~ nitrous oxide (an N₂O-containing gas) is used as said gas.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A—The method according to of~~ claim 1, characterized in that said nitrous oxide is introduced to said liquid coating composition at the upper side thereof, at ~~the a~~ place where the fibre is supplied into the liquid coating composition.

3. (Canceled)

4. (New) A coating method, comprising:

drawing an optical glass fibre from a preform and passing it through an organic liquid coating composition containing material for forming an organic coating;
adjusting the amount of liquid coating composition to be applied to the fibre; and
curing the liquid coating composition to form a solid protective organic layer on the optical glass fibre, comprising conducting a gas containing nitrous oxide over the liquid coating composition.

5. (New) A coating method, comprising:

drawing an optical glass fibre from a preform and passing it through an organic liquid coating composition containing material for forming an organic coating;

adjusting the amount of liquid coating composition to be applied to the fibre; and

curing the liquid coating composition to form a solid protective organic layer on the optical glass fibre, comprising conducting a gas containing nitrous oxide over the liquid coating composition on an upper side thereof and carried downstream along with the optical glass fibre.

6. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the gas contains at least 50% nitrous oxide.

7. (New) A method for coating a coated optical fibre, comprising:

passing the coated optical glass fibre through an organic liquid coating composition that contains material for forming an organic coating;

adjusting the amount of liquid coating composition to be applied to the coated optical glass fibre; and

curing the liquid coating composition to form a solid protective organic layer on the coated optical glass fibre, comprising conducting a gas containing nitrous oxide over the liquid coating composition.

8. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the gas containing nitrous oxide is introduced to the liquid coating composition at an upper side thereof where the coated optical glass fibre is supplied into the liquid coating composition.

9. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the gas contains at least 50% nitrous oxide.

10. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the gas is supplied in an amount that prevents entrained air on the coated optical glass fibre from becoming entrapped in the coating.